

IRISH LIFE INVESTMENT MANAGERS (ILIM)

The week that was – WEEK 50 (ending 11/12/2015)

"Never argue with an idiot. They will only bring you down to their level and beat you with experience." – George Carlin

Thursday's Irish GDP release showed further exceptional growth in Q3 at 7% on the year - Ireland's economy grew by 7 per cent in the third quarter of 2015 compared with the same period in 2014, new figures reveal. The rate of gross domestic product (GDP) growth in July-September - up 7 per cent year-on-year, and up 7 per cent in the year to date - suggests growth for the year will beat Government targets.

Oil falls to the lowest level since 2008 – Oil declined to the lowest level since 2008 in London amid estimates that OPEC's decision to effectively scrap production targets will keep the market oversupplied. The global surplus will persist at least until late 2016.

World stocks - were on the brink of a two-month low on Friday, as beaten-down oil prices, a slide in China's yuan to 4-1/2 year lows and turbulence in emerging markets created a sombre mood. Renewed volatility in oil markets and worries about China, the world's biggest commodities consumer, has pressured many markets ahead of a widely anticipated interest rate hike by the U.S. Federal Reserve next week.

Bond Markets – From the U.S. to Europe to Japan, all major developed government bond markets are poised to finish 2015 with a gain even as the Federal Reserve prepares to raise interest rates. All 26 markets tracked by Bloomberg are poised to generate positive returns this year.

Global Climate Talks - The chairman of global climate talks in Paris said on Thursday negotiators were on the cusp of an agreement, despite persistent differences on key issues dividing rich and developing countries in nearly two weeks of talks.

The Story of the week: Irish journalist Teresa Mannion's live broadcast while being battered by rain during Storm Desmond in Galway has gone viral around the globe this week, with the reporter becoming an instant internet sensation. A drenched Ms Mannion was forced to yell into her large green RTE News microphone don't' make "unnecessary journeys" stay off "treachourous road"s and don't swim in the sea. Wise words!

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Index Performances and Market Data*

Equity Markets % (in Local Currency)	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 YTD (to 11/12)
ISEQ Overall Return	-0.1	2.6	20.5	35.8	16.8	37.7
FTSE 100 TR	12.6	-2.2	10.0	18.7	0.7	-3.8
Euro Stoxx 50 TR	-2.8	-14.1	18.1	21.5	4.0	6.4
S&P 500 TR	15.1	2.1	16.0	32.4	13.7	1.7
Nasdaq Composite	16.9	-1.8	15.9	38.3	13.4	6.5
Nikkei 225	-3.0	-17.3	22.9	56.7	7.1	9.1
MSCI Emerging Markets	11.7	-14.9	13.9	0.9	2.6	-9.0
MSCI World	7.8	-7.6	13.1	26.2	7.7	-0.1
Sovereign 10yr Bond Yields (%)	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 YTD
US	3.3	1.9	1.7	3.0	2.2	2.2
German	3.0	1.8	1.4	1.9	0.5	0.6
UK	3.4	2.0	1.9	3.0	1.9	1.8
Japan	1.1	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.3	0.3
Ireland	9.1	8.4	4.5	3.4	1.3	1.1
Italy	4.8	7.1	4.6	4.1	2.1	1.5
Greece	12.5	31.7	12.7	8.2	9.6	8.4
Portugal	6.6	13.4	6.9	6.1	2.7	2.4
Spain	5.5	5.1	5.4	4.1	1.6	1.6
Central Bank Rates (%)	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 YTD
ECB	1	1	0.75	0.25	0.05	0.05
Bank of England	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.25	0.50	0.50
US Federal Reserve	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Foreign Exchange Rates	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 YTD
Euro/Dollar (€/\$)	1.34	1.30	1.31	1.37	1.21	1.09
Euro/Sterling (€/£)	0.86	0.83	0.81	0.83	0.78	0.72
Sterling/Dollar (£/\$)	1.56	1.55	1.61	1.65	1.56	1.52
IPD All Property Return (%)	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 YTD
Ireland	-2.4	-2.4	3.1	12.7	40.1	10.9 (Q 2)
UK	14.5	8.1	2.7	10.7	17.8	6.5 (Q 2)
US	14.8	14.5	5.3	11.4	11.2	7.2 (Q 2)

^{*}Past performance is not a reliable guide to future performance